Environment Committee Testimony HB-6047 Public Hearing February 27, 2015

Co-Chairman Senator Kennedy Co-Chairman Representative Albis Members of the Committee

As a long time Connecticut Resident and Sportsman I am writing you to express my thoughts on Proposed Committee Bill No. 6047 -- An Act Providing Proper Funding for State Hatcheries.

I SUPPORT HB-6047.

With "hatchery funding" budget plans, in the past and currently proposed, continually seeking reductions and/or elimination of hatcheries, a well researched and thoughtful study to sustain this important "state resource" is needed. I believe this bill will establish this opportunity and enhance the state's ability to fund fish hatcheries and recreational fisheries programs through recognition of specific revenue sources both "public" and "private" in nature. HB-6047 is just the bill, not only needed, but mandated as Connecticut faces a huge fiscal challenge across all areas of spending and revenue.

Thank you.

Stephen Pike 22 Whiteside St Newington, CT 06111